Hispanic Heritage Month

Hispanic Americans: Our Rich Cultures Contributing to America's Future.



USS Enterprise (CVN 65)

THE SHUTTLE

Thursday, September 23, 2010

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September 15 - October 15 2010

NAVSTA Rota 2010 Motorcycle Rally Reinforces the Basics

By Lt. Ben Tisdale, Naval Station Rota Public Affairs By Lt. Ben Tisdale, Naval Station Rota Public Affairs

ROTA, Spain (NNS) -- U.S. personnel who operate motorcycles or mopeds aboard Naval Station (NAVSTA) Rota practiced their motorcycle skills during the 2010 Motorcycle Safety Standdown Aug. 17.

The event, attended by service members, civilian personnel and dependents, reinforced riders basic riding skills to handle the road safely. The rally included a variety of events, such as emergency stops, weaving, the box-turn, and multiple curves.

"The purpose of the rally is to get back to the basics," said Rob Brown, NAVSTA traffic safety manager. "Improving one's rider skills never ends because safety is an active process, not an end-state."

A former naval flight officer for the S-3 Viking aircraft, Brown emphasized even pilots need to keep practicing their skills, no matter how much experience they have in the cockpit.

"In the aviation world, you never stop practicing the basics," he said. "Skills like how to handle the box-turn can help hone the maneuvering skills necessary to stay safe and have a fun ride."

Tech Sgt. Ron Denson, the 725th Air Mobility Squadron training manager and a motorcycle safety instructor who is currently re-certifying, said events like the rally help refresh skills riders may not practice often, like emergency braking.

"Proper braking helps save lives, said Denson. "It's one of the most important skills, and in a controlled environment such as this, we can provide the training scenarios to help build confidence in our riders."

The experience of the riders varied from those who've only ridden for a few months, to those with years of experience, such as Utilitiesman (SCW) Clinton Waldorf.

Waldorf, an avid track rider of nearly

nine years, advocated the importance of safety refreshers.

"It's a good refresher, and provides good scenarios," said Waldorf. "I believe the box turn is a good exercise because it teaches throttle and clutch control in a confined space, a skill that most people don't practice a lot."

During fiscal year 2009, 28 Sailors and Marines perished in motorcycle incidents service-wide. So far this calendar year, Brown said, 17 shipmates have died in the Navy due to motorcycle mishaps.

"Most crashes involve inexperienced riders who are not properly licensed and have not taken any form of motorcycle safety," said Brown. "Just remember - learning and executing proper motorcycle safety doesn't end when you finish your basic rider course - it is a mentality that must be constantly refreshed and applied."

For more news from Naval Station Rota, Spain, visit www.navy.mil/local/rota/.



Machinist Mate 2nd Class Kelvin Brooks is getting ready to take off on a group ride with other Big E Riders from the USS Enterprise Motorcycle Association.

recognizes contributions

ENTERPRISE

By MC3 Tiger Martinez

Enterprise Public Affairs

USS ENTERPRISE, Norfolk - From Sept. 15 to Oct. 15 Sailors aboard USS Enterprise (CVN 65) are celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month.

Crewmembers are participating in various events organized by the Multi-Cultural Heritage Committee (MCHC) and are learning about the history and culture of Hispanic-Americans.

"It's important to celebrate different cultures because on a ship this large we have such a diverse group of people," said Interior Communications Electrician 1st Class (SW) Jessica A. Douglas, president of the MCHC. "By celebrating we find out new facts and traditions that we didn't know before which helps us understand and appreciate each other."

The MCHC is hosting a salsa night in where Sailors can be exposed to different types of music and enjoy a variety of popular dishes. The event is intended to increase cultural awareness as well as provide a recreational activity for Sailors aboard the ship.

During the celebration, Sailors are given the opportuof Hispanic-Americans nity to learn about the many Hispanic-American contributions to society and the mili-

tary.

Over the years Hispanic-Americans have risen to the top of the military profession. In 1964, Adm. Horacio Rivero became the Navy's first Hispanic-American four-star admiral. In 1982 Gen. Richard E. Cavazos became the Army's first Hispanic-American four-star general. In 1998 Luis Caldera was appointed as Secretary of the Army.

"It's important to take pride in our heritage and to set the example for future Hispanic-Americans who are serving in the military," said Machinist's Mate Fireman Gisette J. Mercado, an MCHC committee member. "By having celebrations like this, we're making sure that our customs and culture stay alive and are not forgotten."

Hispanic Heritage Month began in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week and was later extended to a month-long celebration in 1988 by President Ronald Reagan. The celebration date was chosen because of its proximity to seven Latin-American countries' anniversary dates of independence.

The term Hispanic means people who come from a country where Spanish is spoken. Because of their Latin-American origins, Hispanic-Americans also refer to themselves as Latinos or Latinas.

By celebrating the importance of Hispanic heritage, the committee hopes to educate and inform the diverse group of Sailors that make up the Big E crew.

For more information about USS Enterprise, Carrier Strike Group 12 or Carrier Air Wing One visit www. Enterprise.navy.mil, www. ccsg12.surfor.navy.mil, and www.cvw1.navy.mil. You can also visit www.news. navy.mil/local/cvn65.

Enterprise is conducting work-ups and flight deck operations in preparation for its upcoming deployment. For more information about USS Enterprise, Carrier Strike Group 12 or Carrier Air Wing One visit www.Enterprise.navy.mil, www.ccsg12.surfor.navy.mil, and www.cvw1. navy.mil. You can also visit www.news.navy. mil/local/cvn65.



The Big E Shuttle is published and printed daily underway and weekly in port by the USS Enterprise (CVN 65) Media Department, FPO AE 09543-2810. This newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the Department of Defense. Contents are not necessarily the official views of the U.S. Government. The Big E Shuttle reserves the right to edit submissions. Direct inputs and comments to MC1(SW/AW) Barry Abbott at Abbottbd@cvn65.navv.mil.

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September 23

AMC and Regal movie tickets are available for purchase at the cost of \$5 per ticket. There is a limit of seven tickets per person per purchase for the week. Navy cash card required for purchase. Tickets can be purchased at the MWR window.

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RSUPPLY NOTE

All access to RSupply and OMMS-NG will be controlled beginning COB Friday, 24 September due to end of year fiscal close out. Access will be restored Friday, 1 October.

UNIFORM NOTE

Beginning Oct. 1, authorized blue undershirts will replace white T-shirts when wearing coveralls.





